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AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the paragraph (Abstract) beginning at page 21, line 1 with the following rewritten version:

ABSTRACT

An air conditioning monitoring and control system (100) is provided, which is capable of performing manufacturer-private and precise monitoring and control of air conditioners while enabling communication between air conditioners (30a, 30b ..., 31) and control devices (21, 22) using an open protocol.

An The air conditioning monitoring and control system includes an (100) comprises the air conditioner (30a, 30b ..., 31), the a first air conditioning monitoring and control device (21) and the a second air conditioning monitoring and control device (22). The first air conditioning monitoring and control device (21) communicates with the air conditioner conditioners (30a, 30b ..., 31) via a first communication line (53). In addition, this The first air conditioning monitoring and control device (21) includes a first monitoring and control means function and a second monitoring and control means function. The second air conditioning monitoring and control device (22) communicates with the air conditioner conditioners (30a, 30b ..., 31) via a second communication line (53). In addition, this The second air conditioning monitoring and control device (22) include includes the first monitoring and control means function and a third monitoring and control means function.